

Application/Control Number : 09/308,962
Art Unit: 3673
February 22 , 2001
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In the Abstract

Line 2: change "buildings" to --built structures--.

Remarks.

The Examiner's comments and objections and the cited references have been carefully considered by the Applicant.

Reconsideration of the application as hereby amended is respectfully solicited.

Claims 15 and 17 have been amended following rejections under 35 USC § 112, for lack of antecedent basis.

No new matter has been added.

No rejection under 35 USC § 102 has been formulated.

Claim Rejections under 35 § 103

It is noted that claims 15-28 are rejected under the captioned paragraph as being unpatentable over Kapps et al in view of Haekkinen, and further in view of Schmidt et al.

Following to the amendments to the specification (see in particular the statement based on the common general knowledge inserted at page 2, line 22) and claim 15, hereby submitted for the Examiner's approval, it is now clear for the person skilled in the art that the Applicant's claimed method regards and is directed to "*increasing the bearing capacity of foundation soils*", a technical field and related problem which are not taught or mentioned in the cited prior art.

The Applicant's claimed method regards increasing the bearing capacity of "foundation soils" which are defined in the common general knowledge as that part of the